

# Centennial State Libraries

April 20, 2001

## Bookmarks

- [Library Week reception honors students](#)
- [Thanks to the Colorado library community from Samoa](#)
- [The Status of Library Media Center Staffing and Its Effect on Student Achievement:"  
new \*Fast Facts\* shows dismal trends](#)
- [A message to libraries from the Colorado Talking Book Library about returning equipment](#)
- [Resources available about school safety and youth violence](#)

## Library Week Reception Honors Students

The Colorado State Library's annual Library Week Reception at the Governor's Mansion honored the winners of this year's poster contest. Students, families, teachers, and friends from around the state gathered on Wednesday, April 4 to hear State Board of Education members and Nancy Bolt, assistant commissioner for libraries, congratulate the artists on their achievements. Each received a certificate, ribbon, and gift certificate for a bookstore. Libraries and schools around Colorado received a copy of the grand prize winning poster. The Colorado Center for the Book also presented awards to winners in writing contests "River of Words" and "Letters About Literature."



*(from left) At Library Week reception, teacher Joy Shaw, Colorado State Board of Education vice chairman Randy DeHoff, Board member Evie Hudak, grand prize winner Kelly Schuster (Thompson Valley High School), Board member Gully Stanford, assistant commissioner Nancy Bolt.*



*At Library Week Reception, a young winner enjoys the fruits of her labor.*

## **Greetings from Samoa**

A number of libraries donated books to a Peace Corps volunteer in Samoa helping establish a library. Here is a note from the volunteer.

I wish to thank everyone who contributed books to our library here in Samoa, especially the Cancer Research Library in Lakewood. The teachers and students at my school have been avidly looking through the new books.

My school is a government sponsored school located in Apia, the capitol city. There are 700 students enrolled, from Year 9 to Year 13. Students have a compulsory curriculum from Yr 9-11. Starting in Yr 12, they choose three options, ranging from the Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics), Commerce (Accounting, Economics) and the Arts (Geography, History). The other three subjects are English, Samoan and Math. At the end of Year 13, students take a South Pacific-wide exam in their subjects. If students pass 4 of the 6 subjects, they can go on to University.

We are always looking for more materials for our library, from non-fiction to fiction, and pamphlets. The materials we are lacking are on history and culture of countries around the world, along with information on topics such as health, the environment, human rights, domestic abuse, AIDS and so forth. If you have any materials you are considering getting rid of, please contact me at [vshopkins@yahoo.com](mailto:vshopkins@yahoo.com). Materials can also be sent surface mail to:

The Principal  
Library  
Samoa College  
PO Box 1873  
Apia  
SAMOA

A warm thank you once again. Faafetai, faafetai tele lava (Thank you, thank you all very much).

Valerie Hopkins  
Peace Corps



*A  
view  
of  
the  
library*



*A  
view  
of  
the  
library*

## **The Status of Library Media Center Staffing and Its Effect on Student Achievement:" new *Fast Facts* shows dismal trends**

A new issue of "Fast Facts" shows dismal trends in school library media staffing. Read the entire report at [Library Research Service](#).

- More than one in three public schools have either no library media specialist or one who works less than half-time. For elementary schools, that proportion is two out of five.
- Statistics from 2000 indicate a trend to staff LM centers with the equivalent of one full-time person, moving away from more than one, as well as less than one full-time equivalent.
- Almost one in five public schools is staffed by less than one full-time LM center employee. In addition, close to a quarter of elementary schools have less than 40 hours a week of such staffing.
- The total LM center staff-to-student ratio dropped 24 percent in the last six years from 5 per 1,000 students in 1994 to 3.8 in 2000. However, LMS-to-student ratios remained relatively stable, going from 1.4 in 1994 to 1.7 in 2000.
- Fewer LM center staff can mean that library media specialists are spending less time in the role of teachers and leaders, and, as reported in *How School Librarians Help Kids Achieve Standards*, this can adversely affect student academic achievement and ultimately lower CSAP scores.

## **A Message to Libraries: How to Return Talking Book Library Equipment**

Equipment provided to clients of the Colorado Talking Book Library is loaned out, just as media is loaned to patrons by public libraries. The tape players we provide remain the property of the Federal government and are part of an inventory assigned to the CTBL by the Library of Congress.

Occasionally, patrons or the families of (deceased) patrons will bring talking book players to their local library for drop off. Please instruct your staff people that these machines need to be returned to the Colorado Talking Book Library and can be sent back to us by CCLS Courier. Our courier code is TBL. If your library does not have courier service, you can send returned items to us through the U.S. Postal Service at no cost. Call the CTBL at 303-727-9277 or 1-800-685-2136, and we will send you packaging and mailing cards so that you can take advantage of this free service. Do not loan our equipment to other clients because each piece is assigned to a specific patron in our inventory.

We thank you for your assistance with our service. We hope that this information will facilitate the return of CTBL materials that may come to your library.

## Resources About School Safety and Youth Violence Prevention

With the Columbine tragedy returning to the news, the Colorado State Publications Library would like to share some resources on the topic of school safety and youth violence prevention.

1. The [Safe Communities - Safe Schools](#) web page of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at the University of Colorado at Boulder. This page includes school safety statistics, publications, and resource links nationwide.
2. The [Office of the Governor](#) has a link to the "Summit Report on School Safety and Prevention of School Violence" from August 1999.
3. A videorecording is available titled "Blueprints for Violence Prevention" (1999) hosted by actor Edward James Olmos. It discusses the 10 programs that the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence determined met a very high scientific standard of program effectiveness - programs that could provide an initial nucleus for a national violence prevention initiative. The video can be ordered from the Center for \$20 at: [Blueprints for Violence Prevention](#).
4. The State Publications Library has previously prepared two bibliographies of state government resources in electronic and print format on the topic of youth violence information. Link to these from the following page: [Featured Subject Bibliographies](#).
5. For additional information and suggestions, contact Maureen K. Crocker [Colorado State Publications Library](#), 303/866-6728; fax: 303/866-6940; [crocker\\_m@cde.state.co.us](mailto:crocker_m@cde.state.co.us).

For additional information, E-Mail: Bonnie McCune, [mccune\\_b@cde.state.co.us](mailto:mccune_b@cde.state.co.us)

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